

BRITISH COLONIST

Friday Morning, July 30, 1864.

COMMERCIAL.

WESTMINSTER.—The Enterprise arrived from New Westminster with 40 tons of coal and 100 passengers.

SALE.—The schooner Mermaid was sold at auction from Beatty Bay with 100 tons of coal.

MAKING INTELLIGENCE.

ENTERPRISE.—July 29—Schooner Mermaid, Peterson, Albatross.

CLARENCE.—July 29—Schooner Mary Ann, Honey, Orest Island; Slip Leticia, Adams, Port Angeles; Ship Venus, Cargill, Sooke.

KOOTANAI.—Our unfortunate contemporary the *Chronicle*, in its efforts to deny the mines of British Columbia, because it is unable, like other journals, to obtain proper information, makes some rather laughable blunders, and indulges in equally amusing inconsistencies. It is only a few days ago that it headed a letter in the largest type that was at its disposal, "Kootanai Mines a Humbug." "Deluded Caribooties going back to their claims,"—the funny part of which was, that the contents of the letter, even if the latter was genuine, which is doubted, never indicated in the slightest degree the qualities attributed to Kootanai in the heading. The "deluded Caribooties," according to the letter, had not gone from Cariboo to Kootanai, as the heading would imply, but were on their way from Walla Walla to Cariboo, and the letter was a warning to Kootanai on the route. A more ludicrous part, however, yet to come. Forgetting, no doubt, that it had called the Kootanai a "humbug" a week ago, the *Chronicle* yesterday says, "The next day, the *Chronicle* retracting itself." What, after the *Chronicle* had annihilated them by calling them a "humbug"? Verily its influence must be small, even in its own estimation. "That we may be easily deceived," says the *Chronicle*, "is a great deal of it, but we have yet to see if we have seen or heard nothing that would justify us in recommending a single reader to desert his present employment." &c. We will say to the *Chronicle*, "You are not a little deceived in recommending a single reader to desert his present employment [reading?], but it is rather odd to see a paper that has just called the Kootanai a humbug, and the next to admit that they may contain a great deal of gold." The next day, the *Chronicle* says, "The next day, the *Chronicle* retracting itself." It believes it is not right to deplete the mining population of the sister colony, by encouraging them to go to Kootanai. (Which we wonder, under whose authority, the *Chronicle* thinks Kootanai is? Surely, not in Kootanai, or Timbuctoo? We are really afraid the *Chronicle's* geographical knowledge is very little in advance of its "reliable information.")

THE ROYAL CHARLIE LAKED.—Capt. Read and Mr. Laing, the shipbuilder, accompanied by Mr. R. Finlayson, Lloyd's agent, and Mr. Nicholson, from the office of Messrs. Dickson, Campbell & Co., yesterday morning made a survey of the Royal Charlie, as she lay on the ways at Laing's yard, which resulted in the discovery beyond all shadow of doubt of an auger hole in the port bow about 18 inches from the stem and three feet below her loading line. A cursory examination was made on the previous day when the hole was detected, but as it could not be reached without a stage, it was not known to the public. Yesterday's inspection, however, revealed the fact beyond all doubt that a hole had been bored from the inside through the skin between two of the timbers, and piercing the copper plating, and reaching the water. It had been partially plugged with a bolt from the inside, but not sufficiently to prevent the water from finding its way down between the skin and ceiling, and thus giving active entrance to the water. The hole was made between two timbers which were only three or four inches apart, and was accessible from the Fore peak. Appearances did not indicate that it had been recently done. Here occurred the mystery, and it remains to be seen whether this will throw any further light upon this serious matter. The Royal Charlie is said to need repairs of a costly nature. The surveyors recommended among other things, that the copper, which is old and decayed, be replaced with new, and the vessel thoroughly caulked from keel to gunwale.

FORM OF LICENSE.—The following will be the form of License issued by the Acting Gold Commissioner for Soke District:

YANCOUVER ISLAND GOLD LICENSE.

No. _____

The bearer _____ having paid to me the sum of Five Dollars on account of the Crown Revenue, I hereby license him for the space of Six Months from the date hereof, and no longer, and subject to the regulations published with this license, to search for and remove Gold on and from such Lands within the Colony of Vancouver Island as I shall assign to him for that purpose.

This License must be produced whenever demanded by me or by any other person acting under the authority of the Government.

Signed, _____

New Coal Mine.—We learn from a disinterested party, who recently inspected the coal mine situated near Bonilla Point, beyond San Juan Harbor, described in the *Colonist* of the 22nd, that the same is of a highly promising description, and the more likely to prove a valuable investment to the shareholders. He has no doubt from the bearings and indications that it is a continuation of the Fossil Strata series.

GOLD SPECIMENS.—One gentleman of the Exploration Committee yesterday exhibited to enquirers the specimens of scale gold passed out by Mr. Foley on Leech River. Some of the pieces were as large as the head of a gun cap, and were accurately calculated to inspire additional confidence in the richness of our hopeful Island Diggings.

The Supreme Court stands adjourned until Monday at 10 a. m. when the rape case will be heard. The Grand Jury after returning a true bill in the Salt Spring case adjourned for one week to prepare the usual presentment. The first indictment against Quarles has been abandoned.

YIP SOKE.—The schooner Goldstream leaves Esquimalt to-morrow at 9 a. m., and the Enterprise this afternoon at 5 p. m. from the H. B. Co's Wharf for Soke Harbor.

ROCKERS.—These useful mining appliances are somewhat scarce we understand just now, though some have been on stock since the memorable excitement of '58.

FIAT.—Some fine God and Halibut Banks were lately offered by Mr. Foley about five miles from shore between San Juan Harbor and Nitinat.

GOLD COMMISSIONER.—His Excellency has been pleased to appoint Mr. Richard Goldie to be Acting Gold Commissioner for Soke mining District.

There were no cases in the police court yesterday. The cause is manifest.

Punch gives no reason for Garibaldi's leaving England so suddenly, that he heard that Mr. Tupper was coming after him to reside on an island in the Pacific. Another was this being perpetrated by ladies for autographs and other memorials. At the time he departed he had already consumed three mattresses in sending looks of his hair.

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